



# Surpassing Expectations

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## Remarkable Results

During the last year and a half, more than 100 companies, organizations and individuals have joined KY EXCEL. Combined, these members are currently performing more than 300 voluntary environmental projects. The voluntary projects are diverse in nature and every project reaches above and beyond what is required by Kentucky's environmental requirements. Last month, KY EXCEL received annual project reports from the first 12 members to join the program. These members invested a combined \$5.6 million and 44,000 hours to complete their voluntary projects. Some of the results realized were:

- Reduced energy use by nearly 230,000 MBTUs/year.
- Prevented the generation of more than 19,000 pounds of hazardous waste.
- Substituted and eliminated more than 300,000 pounds and 28,000 gallons of materials that could eventually pose a hazard to the environment.
- Improved air quality by eliminating 1,200 pounds of sulfur emissions, 100,000 pounds of 1,3-butadiene emissions and 11 tons of toluene emissions.
- Recycled more than 34,000,000 gallons of waste.
- Helped a community complete a sewer project.
- Planted flowers, trees and shrubs.
- Donated computers to schools rather than sending them to the landfill.
- Composted more than 168 tons of solid waste.
- Developed environmental management plans.
- Encouraged neighbors to recycle.
- Collected and properly disposed of more than 60,000 pounds of materials at household hazardous waste collection days.
- Reused 682 tons of materials before they became a waste.
- Recycled or beneficially used 12,000 tons of solid waste.

KY EXCEL is extremely proud of these members' accomplishments. It is terrific to be able to highlight these results and demonstrate the benefits that Kentucky receives as a result of proactive, environmental leadership. All of the KY EXCEL members are to be applauded for their ongoing commitment to Kentucky's environment.

*For more information on KY EXCEL, contact the  
Kentucky Division of Compliance Assistance at (800) 926-8111*

## **Meet Our New Members**

We are pleased to welcome our newest members that joined during September and October. They have volunteered to perform 48 projects to improve the environment in Kentucky.

**University of Kentucky College of Agriculture (Advocate member)** – The College of Agriculture will create a buffer area between the horses and a stream of approximately 4,000 linear feet in Fayette County. Trees and other vegetation will be planted to improve water quality by filtering runoff.

**Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, Division of Environmental Analysis (Advocate member)** – This division of state government in Franklin County will offer a new training course, "Kentucky Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control Training." This training will help keep eroded soil and resulting sediment from construction sites from entering Kentucky's streams.

**Community Action for Barnes-Mill Neighborhood Inc. (Advocate member)** – This Madison County group's voluntary project commitments include conducting road cleanups on Barnes Mill Road in Richmond and participating in the Kentucky Watershed Watchers activity on Tates Creek, which runs through the neighborhood.

**Kentucky Association for Environmental Education (Advocate member)** – This education association is a statewide association with a home base in Frankfort. Its goal is to offer a workshop for educators that will give them the tools needed to offer an inquiry-based approach to climate change.

**3M - Cynthiana (Master member)** – This Harrison County business' commitments include a 10 percent energy reduction based on pounds produced, a 10 percent reduction of

nonhazardous waste, a 4 percent reduction in total Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) and a 3 percent reduction in total hazardous waste generation.

**River Metals Recycling LLC (3 Leader members)** – Three more River Metals Recycling locations became KY EXCEL members. These three facilities are located in Paducah, Owensboro and Livermore. This brings a total of eight company locations across Kentucky that have joined KY EXCEL. These facilities will be participating in the Kentucky Recycling Interest Group to raise awareness and promote recycling throughout Kentucky, supplying equipment, donating manpower and recycling services to support the Saltpeter Pit Restoration Project, and hosting mercury switch removal workshops for automobile dismantlers and recyclers.

**WATERS Laboratory (Advocate member)** – WATERS is located on the campus of Western Kentucky University in Warren County. Its project commitments are providing bacteriological analyses at a reduced cost to five small drinking water systems, providing Discharge Monitoring Report preparation at no cost to small wastewater systems, providing at least two technical training sessions to drinking water and/or wastewater operators for a better understanding of state and federal regulations, and participating in at least two educational outreach activities that target K-12 audiences to better educate the youth on the importance of water quality.

**Quality Cabinets (Master member)** – This Mount Sterling facility committed to recycling runners from incoming particle board, giving scrap to employees, changing to T-8 fluorescent lights, and reusing pallets.

**Louisville Gas and Electric Co. – Mill Creek Generating Station (Master member)** – The Mill Creek Station will recycle coal combustion by-products as filler materials; sponsor Valley Village Dumpster Day for community members to dispose of junk items; support Project Warm,

which offers conservation solutions during cold weather and Warm Blitz, which weatherizes homes of qualifying individuals; and provide wooden boxes for Peregrine Falcon sheltering on the power plant stacks and cooling towers.

**Louisville Gas and Electric Co. – Trimble County Generating Station (Master member)** – This Trimble County Station is committed to The Green Energy Program, which allows customers to pay for development and use of renewable energy and to participate in mercury monitoring in conjunction with the EPA and Electric Power Research Institute. The facility will preserve wildlife on 114 acres of plant property bordering the Ohio River and will provide wooden boxes for Peregrine Falcon sheltering on the power plant stacks and cooling towers.

**Louisville Gas and Electric Co. – Magnolia Station (Master member)** – This Larue County Station's commitments include reintroducing native grasses and wildflowers in the utility right of ways, installing an infrared device to improve flare monitoring, adding walls and a drum containment basin and participating in the Larue recycling program by encouraging employees to use designated on-site containers.

**Lubrizol Advanced Materials Inc. (Partner member)** – Lubrizol in Jefferson County will dedicate a vent line to each monomer storage tank to allow pressure to be safely vented and emissions to be oxidized for destruction.

**Owensboro Medical Health System (Partner member)** – This hospital system encompasses 11 counties and is based in Daviess County. Waste reduction efforts are being used in public restrooms through the use of low-flow fixtures and automatic dispensers, as the medical system's commitment.

**Third Rock Consultants (Advocate member)** – This Lexington consulting firm's voluntary project commitment includes offering

a series of lunchtime continuing education presentations on environmental topics.

**NewPage Corporation – Wickliffe Paper Co. (Partner member)** – This Ballard County recycling program includes office paper and unused paper produced by the mill, and aluminum cans, with the proceeds benefiting the Employee Emergency Relief Fund. Also, the paper mill has committed to the reduction of water needed to operate through the implementation of water-efficient practices.

### **3M Joins NEPT**

KY EXCEL just received word that the 3M facility located in Cynthiana was accepted into the U.S. EPA's National Environmental Performance Track (NEPT) program. 3M also recently joined KY EXCEL as a Master member. Kentucky congratulates 3M for its national recognition and its commitment to the environment.

NEPT is a national leadership program and has been a valuable partner with KY EXCEL over the last two years. There are currently five other facilities in Kentucky that are also members of NEPT. They are American Synthetic Rubber Co., Hitachi Automotive Products, Mammoth Cave Hotel, Temple Inland and Webasto Roof Systems.

## **KY EXCEL News**

### **Highlights of the 2007 Governor's Conference on the Environment**

More than 350 people attended the 31<sup>st</sup> annual Governor's Conference on the Environment, which was held Oct. 1–2 at the Lexington Convention Center. Energy was the focus of this year's conference.

Speakers leading the conference were Cabinet Secretary Teresa Hill, Deputy Secretary Lloyd Cress, Cheryl Taylor, commissioner for the Department for Environmental Protection, and Aaron Keatley, director for the Division of Compliance Assistance. Several guest speakers were part of the programs, workshops, luncheons and breakout sessions. Robert Stivers and Rocky Adkins discussed the recent Kentucky energy legislation.

Many workshops were offered for participants, including "Clean Diesel Bootcamp," "Climate Change Exchanges: Carbon Credit Trading & Emissions Offsets," "Energy Management Program's Seven Steps," "Teaching About Climate Change," and the "KY EXCEL Members' Meeting."

At the beginning of the KY EXCEL members' meeting, with approximately half of the KY EXCEL members present, participants were encouraged to meet other members and identify their environmental projects. Commissioner Taylor gave an update on the activities of the Department of Environmental Protection and Wayne Begin, a contractor working for the department, discussed the online permitting and emissions survey.

During a slide presentation, Aaron Keatley announced the results of the first 14 KY EXCEL members whose annual reports were received in September 2007. After seeing the impressive statistics from the slide show, program coordinators are looking forward to receiving the annual reports from the next 14 members in October. At the meeting, members and KY EXCEL coordinators had an opportunity to network, share ideas and discuss the KY EXCEL program. Special recognition plaques were presented to inaugural members.

At the Leadership Awards Dinner on Monday evening, Jimmy Palmer, the area's regional administrator for the Environmental Protection

Agency, spoke about the energy concerns facing the nation.

Breakout sessions on Tuesday offered a wide variety of topics, including the green building initiative, printer use and waste reduction, climate change agreements, energy reduction through landscaping, and products to lower a home's energy cost. Powering cars with used vegetable oil, using solar energy, creating a zero energy home, becoming a green and healthy school, switching from fossil fuel to geothermal and designing for energy efficiency were just a few of the other interesting topics discussed in the sessions.

A presentation on "Critical Issues Facing Customers and the Electric Industry" was given by Mike Oldak, senior director for State Competitive & Regulatory Policies from the Edison Electric Institute. Door prizes donated by the Kentucky Pollution and Prevention Center were distributed at the end of the conference.

### **KY EXCEL Program Changes in the Works**

During the KY EXCEL members' meeting at the Governor's Conference, attendees discussed opportunities to improve the program's procedures and encourage others to participate in the program.

One item that was discussed was ensuring that applications were as complete as possible when initially submitted. Often members were confused about the application checklists and attachments, so not all applications being received were complete. Based on this, the group agreed that KY EXCEL should modify the membership application to integrate the checklist, which had previously been a separate document. In addition, KY EXCEL will create a form for applicants to use to summarize their voluntary project proposal. These changes will be on the KY EXCEL Web site before the end of the month.

Another topic addressed at the meeting was whether or not Master members should be required to include a community outreach or educational activity as one of their projects and commit to being available to mentor another member if requested. These standards had been documented as membership requirements at the initiation of the program, but had not been consistently applied. The feeling among members was that community outreach projects and mentoring commitments were important and should be kept as a Master-level membership requirement. KY EXCEL will be applying this standard consistently in the future.

A third change the participants agreed to make pertained to the Partner level. KY EXCEL had experienced a number of interested parties that chose not to participate in KY EXCEL or had difficulty in joining because of the Environmental Management Plan requirement. Although everyone agreed that these plans are important, the group agreed to modify the Partner-level requirements to allow Partner applicants to join KY EXCEL without having a plan in place at the time of application, provided they committed to preparing and implementing a plan within their first year as a member. This change should encourage more participation, while still setting expectations that will improve overall performance.

The final issue discussed was the confidentiality of the facility's performance assessment. Many members have been restricted in what they will provide to the program related to the results of their assessment. KY EXCEL agreed to change the process and will be creating a Performance Assessment Form. This form will require the date the assessment was conducted, who conducted the assessment and a commitment to fix any compliance concerns discovered during the assessment. Any information in addition to the content required by the form will be accepted, but not required.

KY EXCEL believes that these decisions are positive changes for the program, and we thank everyone for their input on these topics. If you have any additional issues you would like to see addressed by KY EXCEL, call us at 1-800-926-8111.

### **Third Quarter Members' Project Reports Due**

If you joined KY EXCEL during the months of July and September 2006, then your organization's KY EXCEL contact will be receiving an e-mail in the next couple of days indicating that it is time to report on your voluntary project results. The e-mail will contain instructions as well as a form that we would request you use to record your project results. The e-mail will remind you that this is also the time when members should submit new projects for the coming year.

Reports and new projects can be submitted electronically by e-mail or can be mailed in hard copy format. Let us know if you have any trouble completing any of the forms.

As you read earlier in this newsletter, the results we are seeing from KY EXCEL members are impressive and we are looking forward to adding this next round of project results to our growing list of accomplishments.

## **News & Upcoming Events**

### **Kentucky Energy Efficiency Conference**

The Second Annual Kentucky Energy Efficiency Conference will be held on Friday, Nov. 16, 2007, at the Capital Plaza Hotel, Frankfort, Kentucky. This conference will provide a forum

to update Kentucky leadership and stakeholders on the National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency, focusing on national and state-specific initiatives; inform the Commonwealth's legislators, regulators, state officials, and other stakeholders about energy efficiency in Kentucky and the opportunities it provides; and identify and discuss energy efficiency initiatives that make sense for Kentucky. There is no cost to attend this event. For additional information and online registration, go to <http://www.signup4.net/Public/ap.aspx?EID=ARCF20E>. If you are interested in attending, be sure to register no later than Thursday, Nov. 1.

## **Pollution Prevention Assessment Training**

The Kentucky Pollution Prevention Center (KPPC) will be hosting an online seminar on Thursday, Oct. 25, 2007, from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. EDT. This seminar will provide training and information on how to conduct a pollution prevention (P2) opportunity assessment. P2 opportunity assessments are self-directed, nonregulatory environmental assessments that are designed to help identify and address problem waste streams for businesses, industries and other organizations. This FREE online training is open to all who wish to participate and will focus on:

- Source Reduction.
- Goals, Objectives and Benefits of a P2 Opportunity Assessment.
- The Six Steps to Conducting a P2 Opportunity Assessment.

Registration 10 minutes prior to the event is recommended. You may register via KPPC's Web site at [www.kppc.org](http://www.kppc.org). For more information, call KPPC at 502-852-0965 or visit the Web site.

## **Bluegrass Watershed Summit**

The Bluegrass Partnership for Water Quality will be hosting a Bluegrass Watershed Summit on Tuesday, Oct. 23, 2007. Registration opens at 5:30 p.m. with the summit beginning at 6 p.m. There is considerable expertise and experience working in the Bluegrass Watersheds. The summit's purpose is to establish a direct network of these experts by bringing them together to share their experience. Leadership from the Central Bluegrass Region of Kentucky should attend. This includes the following tributaries: Elkhorn, Upper Eagle, Strode's, Stoner, Silas, Townsend, The Howard's, Slate, Muddy, Silver, Paint Lick, Sugar, Dix, Hickman, Jessamine, Clear Fork, Glens, Upper Salt, Benson, Six Mile Creeks, etc. This would include the following counties: Shelby, Franklin, Scott, Fayette, Bourbon, Montgomery, Clark, Madison, Garrard, Lincoln, Boyle, Mercer, Washington, Taylor and Anderson. Dinner will be served, so participation is by preregistration or RSVP only. You can register at their Web site [www.kywater.net/bluegrass/](http://www.kywater.net/bluegrass/)

## **U.S. EPA Seeking Input for Needed Regulation Revisions**

KY EXCEL recently received information from the U.S. EPA expressing its interest in obtaining input from regulated facilities and organizations regarding the need for regulatory changes. We thought that some of our members may be interested in this request. A portion of the e-mail we received follows. Additional information on this effort can be obtained by visiting their Web site as listed below.

"The Office of Advocacy of the U.S. Small Business Administration is seeking nominations of federal rules in need of review and reform. The Top 10 rules nominated by small business owners, trade associations and others will be transmitted to appropriate federal agencies for review and reform. Nominate regulations



needing review and reform by visiting the Advocacy Regulatory Review and Reform Web site at <http://www.sba.gov/advo/r3/>, sending an e-mail to [advocacy@sba.gov](mailto:advocacy@sba.gov), or calling Keith Holman at 202-205-6936."

## **Trees Available**

Did you know that you can buy tree seedlings from the Kentucky Division of Forestry? For as little as \$15, you can have 10 tree seedlings shipped to your door. Seedlings include red and white oaks, persimmon, redbud, dogwoods, pines and more. To obtain a copy of the order form and to determine seedling availability, go to <http://www.forestry.ky.gov/> and select the "Order Seedlings" link, which is located on the site's left margin. This Web site also has information on species selection and contains advice that will help you manage your existing trees.

## **EPA TRI Reforms Reward Environmental Stewards**

The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) reform will reward the nation's small business environmental stewards. The EPA hopes that the incentive of using a shorter form and less burdensome analysis would encourage small businesses to recycle hazardous chemicals, rather than discharge them into the environment. Under EPA's December 2006 reform, businesses that do not emit or discharge highly hazardous chemicals can use the short form (TRI Form A). For more information, visit the Office of Advocacy Web site at [www.sba.gov/advo](http://www.sba.gov/advo).